



### MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 13, 2018

#### Minutes

Location: 1026 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Board Members Present: Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine (Phone), Beth Packel, Lorraine White (Phone)

Board Members Absent: William Brinkman, David Bryant, Aliya Griffin, Michael Maholick

Other: Leigh Botwinik, Kelly Davenport, Dawn Eubanks, Jason Falconio, Sarah Grugan, Max Matthews, Johnny Mills, Chris Moore, Bill Ray, Maurice Roberts, Anthony Royster, Dave Shahriari, Teryn Thomas, Honey Younesie, Chris Zagacki

The meeting is called to order at 8:02 AM.

#### I. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

#### II. Resolutions

- a. Review and Approve Minutes from Board Meeting on June 13, 2018
  - i. The Board of Directors review the minutes from the Board Meeting on June 13, 2018.
  - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the minutes. Paul Archibald seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- b. Children's Internet Protection Act Policy
  - i. Max Matthews explains the Children's Internet Protection Act Policy, a requirement by law for receiving the federal technology grant. The policy prevents students from accessing explicit or harmful content on the internet while at school.
  - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the Children's Internet Protection Act Policy. Beth Packel seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- c. Fiscal Year 2019 Revised Budget
  - i. Bill Ray explains that the School District of Philadelphia released its 2018-19 capitation rates, which were significantly higher than the rates used to prepare the original FY 2019 budget. The revised budget presents the additional revenues and expenses due to the new capitation rate.
  - ii. Beth Packel requests that Bill Ray share the new budget projections with The Reinvestment Fund (TRF).
  - iii. Beth Packel makes a motion to approve the revised Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. Bruce Lesser seconds.
  - iv. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- d. Freire Deeper Learning Rubric

- i. Kelly Davenport shares the Deeper Learning Rubric, created in conjuncture with the Heads of School and an outside consultant. This rubric focuses on how strong charter networks evaluate teachers and instruction through a more student-centric lens and establishing a community of learners between both the students and teachers. Using this rubric, the hope is for students to begin achieving a deeper understanding of course material, not just being taught to prepare for standardized tests.
  - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve the Deeper Learning Rubric. Lisa Hoffstein seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- e. Addendum to Academic and Business Service Agreement, Director of Learning
  - i. Bill Ray explains the addendum to the Business Service Agreement for the Director of Learning. The Director of Learning was hired by Build the Future but is paid for by Freire Charter School and TECH Freire evenly because of the position's focus on supporting those two campuses.
  - ii. The Board agrees that if the Director of Learning will also be supporting Freire Wilmington, Freire Wilmington should cover a portion of the costs to cover the position.
  - iii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to approve the Addendum to the Academic and Business Service Agreement for the Director of Learning with the understanding that Freire Wilmington will pay for a portion of the costs to cover the position. Paul Archibald seconds.
  - iv. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- f. Addendum to Academic and Business Service Agreement, Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement
  - i. Bill Ray explains the addendum to the Business Service Agreement for the Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement. The Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement was hired by Build the Future but is paid for by Freire Charter School and TECH Freire evenly because of the position's focus on supporting those two campuses.
  - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve the Addendum to the Academic and Business Service Agreement for the Director of Community Partnerships & Engagement. Bruce Lesser seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- g. Business Services Agreement, Director of Student Services
  - i. Bill Ray explains the Business Services Agreement for the Director of Student Services between Freire Charter School and Freire Charter School Wilmington. This year, the Director of Student Services for Freire Charter School will spend a portion of their time supporting Freire Charter School Wilmington's Student Services Department.
  - ii. Bill explains that Freire Wilmington will pay 40% of the personnel costs for the Director of Student Services.
  - iii. Beth Packel makes a motion to approve the Business Services Agreement for the Director of Student Services with the addendum which allows Freire Charter School to terminate the agreement within 7 days, using best efforts to hire a new person to support Freire Wilmington Charter School within the 7-day period, if needed. Bruce Lesser seconds.
  - iv. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- h. Donation Approval, TRF Refinance
  - i. Bill Ray shares that the proposed donations from the Freire Foundation will reduce the overall debt owed by Freire Charter School and cover the closing costs incurred on the loan refinance with The Reinvestment Fund (TRF).
  - ii. Beth Packel makes a motion to approve the donation from the Freire Foundation to Freire Charter School. Bruce Lesser seconds.

- iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- i. Approval of Amendment to Freire Charter School MOU
  - i. Max Matthews explains the changes to the Freire Charter School MOU with the School District of Philadelphia. Freire negotiated additional protections to student data and personal information shared with the School District in compliance with local, state and federal law, including the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
  - ii. Paul Archibald makes a motion to approve the amendment to the MOU. Bruce Lesser seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- j. Approval of Amendment to Build the Future's Articles of Incorporation
  - i. Max Matthews explains that Build the Future is looking to change its name to Freire School Collaborative. The Build the Future Bylaws state that Freire Charter School's Board of Directors must approve any changes to the Articles of Incorporation.
  - ii. Beth Packel makes a motion to approve the changes to Build the Future's Articles of Incorporation. Paul Archibald seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.
- k. Election of Anthony Royster to TECH Freire Charter High School's Board of Directors
  - i. The Board reviews Anthony Royster's resume. Anthony is a 2008 Freire Alum looking to join the TECH Freire Board of Directors.
  - ii. Bruce Lesser makes a motion to appoint Anthony Royster to TECH Freire's Board of Directors. Nicole Jenkins seconds.
  - iii. Paul Archibald, Gerald Escovitz, Lisa Hoffstein, Nicole Jenkins, Raquel Leach, Bruce Lesser, Bruce Levine, Beth Packel, and Lorraine White vote in favor of the motion. There are no votes against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

### **III. School Report**

- a. Heads Report
  - i. September Data Packet
    - 1. Chris Zagacki shares Freire Charter Middle School's September Data Packet with the Board of Directors. He notes the increase in average daily attendance and the positive trend in attrition and suspension numbers. Chris notes that the school's PSSA scores increased 2%-5% across all content areas. The total number of students testing 'Below Basic' in Mathematics also decreased.
    - 2. Chris Moore shares Freire Charter High School's September Data Packet with the Board of Directors. Chris notes that last school year ended with more students enrolled and a lower suspension rate than in previous years. Chris shares that total applications for the school have increased year-over-year, totaling over 3000 for the 2018-2019 school year.
  - ii. 2018-2019 Objectives and School Plan
    - 1. Chris Zagacki shares the guiding principles for Freire Charter Middle School for the coming school year. He notes the focus for this year is on themes such as working collaboratively, increasing trust, further improving PSSA test scores, and putting student's instruction and well-being first.
    - 2. Chris Moore shares the goals and objectives of Freire Charter High School for the coming school year. He notes the changes to the lateness and attendance policies that will help students be more engaged and on time. Freire High will also implement new student perception and community surveys throughout the year to measure student's feelings of safety and captivation with their lessons and teachers.
- b. Staff Member Update
  - i. Jason Falconio, the new Co-Head of Academics at Freire Charter High School, shares the Keystone proficiency goals for Algebra, Biology, and Literature for the coming year. Unlike previous years, students who do not meet their proficiency goals in a particular content area two

times will have the opportunity to enroll in a Summer Keystone Bootcamp. This bootcamp will allow students to review and sharpen their understanding of a particular content area before taking the test a third time.

- c. Student Council Update
  - i. There is no update at this time.
- d. Alumni Update
  - i. The Board will receive an Alumni update during the October Board Meeting.
- e. Middle School Playground
  - i. Chris Zagacki shares that Freire Middle School has been planning to build a playground in the unfinished portion of the building's basement. With the increased capitation rates received from the District, the school has increased funds to spend on capitalized expenses. Kelly Davenport shares that cost to make the space safe and functional will cost an additional \$100k than originally estimated. PNC Bank has offered to lend Freire Middle \$150k to fund the increased cost.
  - ii. The Board discusses the terms of the loan and potential for better terms. The Board suggests looking into other options that may have more favorable terms.

#### **IV. Financials**

- a. June 2018 Financial Packet
  - i. Bill Ray reviews Freire Charter School's June financials.

#### **V. Advancement**

- a. Advancement Update
  - i. There is no update at this time.

#### **VI. Board Committee Reports**

- a. Audit Committee
  - i. There is no update at this time.
- b. Education Committee
  - i. There is no update at this time.
- c. 403(b) Committee
  - i. The 403(b) Committee will be convening on Thursday, September 27 via phone. All Board Members are invited to be a part of this committee call.

#### **VII. Governance**

- a. 2018-2019 FCS Board Schedule
  - i. The Board reviews the 2018-2019 Board Meeting Schedule.
- b. FCS Board Contact Sheet
  - i. The Board reviews the 2018-2019 Board Contact Sheet and is encouraged to share any changes to contact information with Johnny Mills.
- c. Board Visitation Day
  - i. Gerry Escovitz shares that Freire Charter High and Freire Charter Middle Schools will be hosting Board Visitation Days in October and encourages the Board to attend. More information will be sent out via email in the coming weeks.
- d. New Build the Future Staff Members
  - i. Kelly Davenport introduces Maurice Roberts, the new Executive Assistant and Alumni Liaison for the Freire Network and 2007 Freire Alum.
  - ii. Kelly also introduces Teryn Thomas, the new Director of Learning for the Freire Network. Teryn will help to strengthen learning and instruction across all Freire campuses.
  - iii. Kelly notes that, in addition to Maurice and Teryn, Build the Future has hired three additional staff members: Vicky Parent, the new Director of Institutional Giving; Hilda Bacon, the new Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement; and Ellen Rohlfing, the new Creative Fellow in Residence.
  - iv. Kelly also formally introduces Jason Falconio to the Board. Jason has been a member of the Freire community for several years, most recently as the AP Biology Teacher at Freire Charter High School. Jason is now serving as the Co-Head of School for Academics alongside Adam Antonioli, the former Assistant Head of Academics at Freire Charter Middle School.

10:35 AM, meeting adjourned.